

## MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN CITIZENS ADVISORY PANEL

February 27, 2017

4:00 P.M.

2nd Floor – H. Lee Dennison Building

### **Representatives Attending:**

<b><u>DISTRICT</u></b>	<b><u>LEGISLATOR</u></b>	<b><u>REPRESENTATIVE</u></b>
1	Albert Krupski	Steven Shauger
2	Bridget Fleming	Susan Von Freddi
3	Kate M. Browning	Jon Siebert
6	Sarah S. Anker	Lori Baldassare
7	Robert Calarco	Dennis Smith
8	William J. Lindsay III	Kay Cameron
9	Monica R Martinez	Florence Joyner
10	Tom Cilmi	Robert Moses Kuri
11	Thomas F. Barraga	Donna Periconi
12	Leslie Kennedy	Gina Coletti
13	Robert Trotta	Adam Wood
14	Kevin J. McCaffrey	JoAnn Boettcher
15	DuWayne Gregory	John Diliberto
16	Steve Stern	Walter Rabe
18	William Spencer	Keith Barrett
County Executive Rep/Chair		Regina Zara

### **Representatives Absent:**

4	Tom Muratore	Robert Martinez
5	Kara Hahn	Barbara Russell
17	Lou D'Amaro	Jennifer A. Casey
Planning		Peter Lambert

### **Also Attending:**

Heidi Kowalchyk, Contracts Management Analyst, Staff to Panel

George Hoffman, Public

### **Guest Speaker:**

Theresa Ward, Commissioner, Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

## **MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN CITIZENS ADVISORY PANEL**

- I. Welcome: The meeting was called to order by Regina Zara at 4:13 p.m.
- II. Consideration of the Minutes from 11/28/2016. John DiLiberto motioned and JoAnn Boettcher 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve minutes from the November meeting. Motion carried. All who were absent from the meetings abstained.
- III. Correspondence: Regina Zara reported that both Ray Pickersgill and Bill Garthe retired from the Panel after many years of service. Zara noted they were both great contributors and she is sorry to see them leave. The Panel members agreed they were very well respected members of the Panel and will be missed. Zara thanked all three members who resigned for their service- Ray Pickersgill, Bill Garthe and John Liberti. (the resignation of Liberti was announced at the November meeting). Zara announced the three new members who were present at their first meeting; Steven Shauger, Jon Siebert and Adam Wood introduced themselves.
- IV. Speaker: Theresa Ward, Commissioner of Suffolk County Department of Economic Development and Planning introduced herself and gave an overview of Department responsibilities. She presented information about a key County initiative called Connect Long Island. Connect Long Island is a regional transportation and development plan that invests in the future by connecting railroads with educational institutions, innovation centers, housing, and regional tourism and transportation assets; and developing Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes which aims to provide better north/south connections. Ward also reviewed some other Department programs including the Water Quality, which includes an improved septic initiative, Real Estate, Gabreski Airport and Tourism.
- V. Old Business: Zara reviewed the 2017 meeting schedule giving special attention to the slate of upcoming speakers and discussion topics. Susan von Freddi invited the Panel to tour Hampton Bays at the April meeting to see many downtown improvements and the new park during the nice weather. The Panel agreed to tour Hampton Bays in April and Central Islip in December. Susan will make arrangements for the tour.
- VI. New Business: Zara announced the Round 15 application process has begun. Heidi Kowalchyk reported that the training session for Round 15 applicants was held on January 31, 2017 at the H Lee Dennison Building in the media room. She noted that 28 people attended, many of whom were first time applicants. Zara, Kowalchyk and John Corral conducted the training session with Corral reporting on SEQRA requirements. The training Power Point Presentation, Round 15 Application and Guidelines are all available on the Suffolk County website.
- VII. Give and Take: Susan von Freddi brought up a concern about the limited number of groups able to obtain Cultural Omnibus grant money. Zara explained that Cultural Omnibus grants are awarded by Suffolk County Legislators. Zara

explained the competitive cultural arts and film grants available through the Department of Economic Development and Planning and offered to send the Panel information on those grants and when they typically become available and are due.

Kowalchuk offered to review the Open Project Reports given to new members individually after the meeting.

VIII. Public Portion: None

Meeting adjourned 5:25 p.m.